Pay revision of bank employees

*213. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the reason for not finalizing the pay revision of Nationalized Banks, State Bank of India, Reserve Bank of India, Scheduled Commercial Banks, General Insurance Corporation, Life Insurance Corporation officers and employees and by when the pay revision of these employees would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): The pay revision of Nationalised Banks, State Bank of India, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and Scheduled Commercial Banks is due from 1.11.2007. The pay revision of the employees of Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) and General Insurance Corporation (GIC) is due from 1.08.2007. Negotiations are being held between Indian Banks' Association (IBA) representing the managements of the Banks and the Unions / Associations to conclude the Pay revision. In the Insurance Sector, the LIC and General Insurers' (Public Sector) Association of India (GIPSA) are examining the Charter of Demands submitted by various Employees / Officers' Unions and Associations In the RBI, the recognised Unions & Associations have already submitted their Charter of Demands and preliminary discussions have taken place with workmen employees.

Modernisation of Kolkata airport

*214. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA :

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether some political parties have written to the Prime Minister with reference to its policies on modernisation of Kolkata and 35 other non-metro airports in the country;

(b) if so, whether some of the parties have questioned Government's decision in this regard;

(c) if so, what are the main reasons put forward for reversing policy of modernisation of Kolkata and other 35 non-metro airports in the country; and

(d) what is the final decision taken and whether Government has agreed to modernise these airports also?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL) : (a) to (d) Yes, some Hon'ble Members of Parliament have expressed concern over delay in the process of modernisation of Kolkata and 35 non-metro airports. The Government have, accordingly approved the project of modernisation of Kolkata Airport at an estimated cost of Rs.1942.51 crores for implementation by AAI. The work has been awarded on 6.10.2008 and is likely to be completed in 30 months.

As per guidelines issued by COI, 35 non-metro airports, namely Amritsar, Agra, Agatti, Ahmedabad, Aurangabad, Bhopal, Bhubaneshwar, Chandigarh, Dehradun, Indore, Jaipur, Jammu, Khajuraho, Lucknow, Madurai, Mangalore, Nagpur, Pune, Ranchi, Trichy, Trivandrum, Udaipur, Varanasi, Visakhapatnam, Agartala, Coimbatore, Dimapur, Goa, Guwahati, Imphal, Patna, Port Blair, Raipur, Rajkot and Vadodara are being developed. The Terminal Building and Air Side infrastructure at these 35 non-metro airports are being developed by AAI in a time bound manner for completion by end March 2010. The City Side Development of select 24 Non-Metro airports is to be done through public- private partnership route.

The modernisation and expansion of Kolkata airport and 35 non-metro airports is underway as planned.

Share of Rajasthan in profit from petroleum products

†*215. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the places in Rajasthan where the work of exploration and production of petroleum products likely to be started along with the details thereof; and

(b) the quantum of share for the State ensured by Central Government out of the profit earned from the production of petroleum products in Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA): (a) and (b) Hydrocarbon exploration operations are being carried out in the districts of Rajasthan namely, Barmer, Baran, Bikaner, Bundi, Bhilwara, Chum, Chittaurgarh, Ganganagar, Hanumangarh, Jalore, Jaisalmer, Jhalawar, Jodhpur and Kota. Oil India Limited (OIL) and Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) are producing natural gas at the rate of 7.5 lakhs cubic metres per day from Jaisalmer basin in Rajasthan. Natural gas produced by OIL and ONGC is being supplied to Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited through the gas pipeline of GAIL (India) Limited. Crude oil production from Barmer basin, likely to peak at 6-7 million metric tonne per annum, is to commence (by Cairn Energy India Pty Ltd.) in the second half of 2009.

Royalty is payable to the State Government for crude oil and natural gas production in the State. For offshore areas, royalty is payable to the Central Government only. The State Government receives royalty in the range of 12.5% to 20% of well head price on crude oil production for the blocks awarded under New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) and nomination regimes. The royalty rate on natural gas production is 10% of well head price. Under the NELP, Government will receive profit petroleum in addition to royalty on crude oil and natural gas production, once production commences. For the blocks awarded under NELP, 50% share of profit petroleum is to be shared with the State Governments, as recommended by the Twelfth Finance Commission. The State Government shall also benefit to the extent of taxes and duties levied by the State Government on sale of crude oil and natural gas production.

International crude prices *vis-a-vis* domestic petrol price

†*216. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the price of crude in the international market had come down to 45.50 Dollar per Barrel in the past few days;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the price of crude oil in the international market at the time when the prices of petrol, diesel and cooking gas were last increased in the past months in the country; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi